

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Blackstone Historic District DER File No. 142-7
other names/site number N/A

2. Location Area including Main, Broad, Oak, High, Dinwiddie, Mann, Church, 2nd through 6th
street & number streets, and Academy, Lunenburg, Brunswick, & College not for publication N/A
city, town Blackstone avenues vicinity N/A
state Virginia code VA county Nottoway code 135 zip code 23824

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- ☒ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☒ public-Federal

Category of Property

- ☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
272	91 buildings
0	0 sites
1	0 structures
0	0 objects
273	91 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 1

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Director, VA Dept. of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

10 Dec 1990

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.
☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

COMMERCE: specialty store

COMMERCE: financial institution

RELIGION: religious structure

See Continuation Sheet

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

COMMERCE: specialty store

COMMERCE: financial institution

RELIGION: religious structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

QUEEN ANNE

ROMANESQUE REVIVAL

LATE GOTHIC REVIVAL

See Continuation Sheet

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Wood

Brick

roof Metal

other Wood

Cast Metal

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Blackstone Historic District is located within the corporate limits of Blackstone, Virginia, a town in southeastern Nottoway County about fifty miles southwest of Richmond. Originally a small eighteenth-century crossroads settlement known as Black's and White's for its two competing taverns, Blackstone grew to become an important transportation and commercial center for the region especially after the arrival of rail service in the 1850s. The historic district contains most of the town's late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century commercial buildings along Main and Broad Streets. The district also incorporates a small residential area of late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century brick and frame residences east of the commercial area as well as the recently restored ca. 1790 Schwartz Tavern (individually listed in the National Register in 1974). South and west of the commercial area is a large residential neighborhood primarily developed by the Blackstone Land and Improvement Co. after 1900. This area contains the town's finest examples of Queen Anne- and Colonial Revival-style dwellings, four turn-of-the-century churches, and the 1922 Colonial Revival former Blackstone College for Girls.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

Blackstone Historic District incorporates sites of several eighteenth-century crossroads--Old Jordan's Road, Cryor's Road, Old Church Road, and Cocke's Road, the stage route from Petersburg to North Carolina. At this crossroads site, the recently restored Schwartz Tavern (ca. 1790) forms the earliest focal point of the historic district. the community's primary commercial district grew from the settlement west of the tavern. The earliest map of the commercial district (1874) employs a grid system of intersecting streets. Main Street and Broad Street form the town's primary cross-axis, although the two streets' names were originally reversed. Broad Street (now Main) extended to the Petersburg stage route. Main Street (now Broad) continued to the Nottoway Courthouse route, linking the town to the county seat six miles away. Today U.S. routes 460 and 40 converge on Main Street.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION

COMMERCE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1790s to 1940

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Bishop, Fred A. - architect

Anderson, D. Wiley - architect

Cobbs, R. W. - builder

See Continuation

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Blackstone Historic District, in southeastern Nottoway County, Virginia, is being proposed for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places based on National Register criteria A and C. Because of Blackstone's early settlement as an eighteenth-century crossroads community with one of its original taverns still standing (ca. 1790 Schwartz Tavern, individually listed in the National Register) and because of the community's rapid development after the arrival of the Southside Railroad in the 1850s, the district is significant under Criterion A as a transportation and commercial center for the region. Because Blackstone contains a late-eighteenth-century tavern, outstanding examples of Victorian residential neighborhoods and commercial blocks, and examples of early-twentieth-century domestic, civic, academic, and ecclesiastical architecture, the district is significant under Criterion C in reflecting American trends in architecture, especially in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

When Nottoway was formed from Amelia County in 1788, the future site of Blackstone was a simple crossroads settlement.¹ In 1790 John Schwartz purchased from Jemima Williams a building near the intersections of Jordan's Road, Cryor's Road, Old Church Road,² and Cocke's Road, the stage route from Petersburg to North Carolina.³ In May 1798, Schwartz was issued a license to operate an ordinary, or tavern, at this site, one block away from the tavern owned by Francis White. Because of the similarity of Schwartz's name to the German schwarz or black, the settlement was soon known as Black's and White's. By 1800 the community also included a doctor's office, blacksmith's shop, and icehouse.³ Schwartz Tavern was enlarged twice by the 1840s; licenses for an ordinary continued to be granted to tavern owners until 1872.⁴ Later used as a private residence, the tavern is now Blackstone's leading restored landmark and is individually listed in the National Register.

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

☒ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository:

VA Department of Historic Resources
221 Governor Street, Richmond, VA 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approximately 208 acres

UTM References

A 18 233800 4108220
Zone Easting Northing

C 18 233510 4107200

B 18 234000 4107820
Zone Easting Northing

D 18 233340 4107040

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

☒ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

☒ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James E. Wootton - Architectural Historian: David A. Edwards - Architectural Hist.

organization Virginia Department of Historic Resources date February 1, 1990

street & number 221 Governor Street telephone (804) 786-3143

city or town Richmond state Virginia zip code 23219

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6. HISTORIC FUNCTIONS - continued

EDUCATION: college
GOVERNMENT: post office

CURRENT FUNCTIONS - continued

GOVERNMENT: post office

7. ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION - continued

VICTORIAN ITALIANATE
BEAUX ARTS
COLONIAL REVIVAL
BUNGALOW/CRAFTSMAN
ART DECO

8. ARCHITECT/BUILDER - continued

Crowder, Joseph Wesley - builder
McDaniel, J. E. - architect/builder

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Many commercial buildings from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are situated along Main and Broad Streets. This area contains a wide variety of commercial building styles. The Romanesque Revival style is articulated in the two-story buildings at 101 South Main and 116-118 South Main. Exaggerated semi-circular granite arches and lintels create a formal expression of Richardsonian Romanesque design in the First National Bank building, 100 South Main, designed by Richmond architect D. Wiley Anderson. Victorian cast-metal fronts, many of them recently restored, appear at 109 South Main, 110 South Main, 115-119 South Main, and 120 West Broad. The two-story brick facade at 123 South Main features cast-metal storefront and cornice details in the Italianate style, while the cast-stone facade at 215 South Main is composed of rusticated block. The early-twentieth-century buildings at 114 South Main, 218 South Main, and 108 West Broad exhibit Art Deco details. A ca. 1930 warehouse at 130 North Main was influenced by the Colonial Revival; resembling a barn, the building features a large gambrel roof with a stepped parapeted front.

The commercial district's recent revitalization has included the restoration of many of these buildings, the reproduction of the town's early electric street lamps, and the planting of ornamental pear trees along the sidewalks. Some property owners have begun to restore their buildings' ornate illuminated metal canopies, suspended with chains attached to the building facade by small cast lions' heads. In addition, many business owners have replaced later facade treatments with appropriate canvas awnings and have amended their buildings' colors and signage to reflect each building's character more accurately.

The commercial district was damaged by a half-block fire in 1902 and the town's commercial crossroads--Main and Broad streets--survived two other major fires. The buildings on the north side of Broad Street were once the home of Chapin's livery stable. On 4 July 1928 a spectacular fire originated at the stable and quickly spread to Main Street. Nineteen establishments were destroyed as the result of the fire, and almost immediately rebuilt. This row of buildings still stands on the east side of the 100 block of North Main Street. Chapin's was soon rebuilt on its Broad Street site and continued operation until 1952. Almost forty years later, Blackstone's only three-story commercial building, at the northwest corner of Main and Broad, burned in late 1964. A Colonial Revival bank now occupies the site.

East of Main Street, the area bordered by Mann Street, North Harris Street, High Street, and Dinwiddie Avenue comprises the town's earliest residential neighborhood. This area includes an impressive collection of residences built by the merchants and businessmen who worked one block away. An assortment of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival houses accents an

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area that also includes a ca. 1820 dwelling, vernacular Victorian residences, and bungalows. The residences at 211 and 305 South High Street were built around 1900 by the Dillard brothers, both local merchants. The Thomas M. Dillard House (211 South High) is an unusually small example of the Queen Anne style, but it shares many stylistic elements with the much larger Richmond F. Dillard House (305 South High). Both buildings feature corner turrets, classical columns, contrasting surface treatments, and complex massing.

Oak Street is parallel to Main Street, one block east, and terminates at Irvin Street. The residences along Oak Street continue the styles seen on High Street. Unfortunately the Blackstone Public School Complex--a 1907 Roman Revival elementary school and a 1923 Art Deco high school--on lower Oak Street was destroyed by arson in the 1970s.

The commercial district of upper South Main Street is linked to the residential district of lower South Main Street by the block between Irvin and Church streets. This block includes the town's Federal Revival post office, a Roman Revival Baptist church, a Gothic Revival Episcopal church, the town library (housed in a rehabilitated Colonial Revival dwelling), several businesses, and a municipal park. Situated south of the library, Seay Park is the site of businessman Haney H. Seay's residence. In the 1960s the Seay home was used as the Blackstone Day School, which later became part of Kenston Forest School. The house was demolished in the early 1970s. Today Seay Park is used for outdoor concerts, lectures, and community events throughout the year. The park stretches from Main Street to Oak Street, and its festive gazebo has become a symbol of the renewed interest in the town's architectural legacy.

The residences that line South Main Street from Church Street to Sixth Street remain largely unaltered from their original appearance. The majority of buildings are in the Queen Anne style, but Colonial Revival, Bungalow, vernacular Victorian, and Gothic Revival residences are also represented. The Queen Anne residence at 500 South Main Street retains both its original exterior appearance and all of its original carved and molded interior details. This residence was designed and built by local builder J. E. McDaniel in 1903. The Bagley House (513 South Main) was built in 1911 for Sudie Bagley, the widow of Isham Bagley and sister of merchant Haney Seay. Although the complex roof line and variety of porches link this house with the Queen Anne style, it is more closely related to the Colonial Revival and to the Classical Revival, particularly in the four massive Tuscan columns along its facade. Built about twenty years earlier, the Upson House (512 South Main) stands almost directly across the street from the Bagley House. The Upson House is Blackstone's most fully articulated Queen Anne residence; it demonstrates the contrast between "pure" Queen Anne and the transitional style of the Bagley House.

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The bulk of the community's historic residential section is a sixteen-block area bordered by South Main Street, Church Street, College Avenue, and Sixth Street; however, the historic district continues on Brunswick Avenue to Ninth Street because of the singular continuation of contributing residences along that avenue. This entire area features over 100 residences built before 1940. Many of these buildings were constructed shortly after 1900 by the Blackstone Land and Improvement Company, which continued the same grid system for the major residential areas that was earlier established in the business district. The streets were originally designated A, B, C, D, and E streets, crossed by First through Ninth avenues, but in 1929 the street names were changed. A Street became Academy Avenue, B Street became Lunenburg Avenue, C Street became Brunswick Avenue, D Street became College Avenue, and E Street became Amelia Avenue. Second through Ninth avenues became Second through Ninth streets. First Avenue, however, became known as Church Street because the Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Christian churches had all been built along this street.

The major avenues of this residential area are broad and lined with trees, and the early residences are sited on large lots. Most residences in this area were built in the Queen Anne style, but Bungalow, and Colonial Revival styles are also represented. Church Street includes churches, businesses, and several high-style residences. The town's most outstanding Colonial Revival residence (205 Church Street) features a semi-circular portico with Corinthian columns. Originally built as a residence, this building was for many years used as a hotel, appropriately called the Colonial Trail. More recently it has been rehabilitated as a restaurant.

The side streets of this residential area--Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth--include buildings representative of moderate-income residents. The side streets are narrower than the avenues, and their lots are smaller than those along the avenues. Although some large residences appear on the side streets, the streets are dominated by small vernacular buildings and by modest bungalows. Also in this section is the town's earliest extant tobacco warehouse and processing plant--the ca. 1900 Plantation Tobacco Company brick warehouse--at the corner of Second Street and Lunenburg Avenue.

The historic district includes four architecturally distinctive churches. Blackstone Baptist Church (403 South Main Street, 1907) is a Roman Revival building with an Ionic portico. Sited on one of Blackstone's few hills, the church can be seen from many points throughout the community. Crenshaw United Methodist Church (200 Church Street, 1903) is built in the Romanesque Revival style. The interior of St. Luke's Episcopal Church (420 South Main Street, 1898, foundation raised by 1916) is an

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untouched example of Carpenter Gothic design, although its frame exterior was later clad in brick veneer. A more formal treatment of the Gothic Revival is discerned in Blackstone Presbyterian Church (301 Church Street, 1901). Education wings have been added to all of these churches, but in every case the churches' sanctuaries remain essentially as designed.

The southwest terminus of the historic district is the former Blackstone College for Girls (designed by Petersburg architect Fred A. Bishop, 1922), now the Virginia Methodist Assembly Center. Situated at the southwest corner of College Avenue and Fourth Street, the complex is an excellent example of Collegiate Beaux Arts Classicism and was constructed by local contractor R. W. Cobbs.

Around 1900 the local newspaper, the Blackstone Courier (now the Courier-Record) noted each week the construction of new businesses and residences during Blackstone's turn-of-the-century building boom. In 1903 the Courier stated, "A greater number of buildings are being erected here than ever known before at any one time." Most residents still preferred the Queen Anne style during this period, but Bungalow, Colonial Revival, and American Foursquare styles were also introduced by 1920. R. W. Cobbs demonstrated his construction versatility by building the Colonial Revival residence with Tudor Revival arcade at 614 South Main Street, the Colonial Revival residence at 906 Brunswick Avenue, and the Beaux-Arts bank at 126 South Main Street. Seven of Cobbs's houses still stand in or near the historic district. At least fourteen buildings in the town's residential neighborhoods were built by Joseph Wesley Crowder, another local contractor who constructed frame houses throughout Blackstone from 1893 until his death in 1911.

Because many of Blackstone's residences were built by the Blackstone Land and Improvement Company from one store of materials, the residences share many features. Both low-style and high-style Queen Anne houses are frequently capped by turrets, and they usually feature central hipped roofs with several projecting gables punctuated with attic lights or dormers. Buildings along College Avenue, Brunswick Avenue, Dinwiddie Avenue, and South Main Street particularly share these features. Although some residences were architect-designed, many more appear to have been the work of capable contractors with a variety of building materials at their disposal.

Despite some later construction, most of Blackstone's more recent residential development has occurred outside the historic district. The added strains of a nearby military installation (Fort Pickett) and of industrial development have also taken place outside the district. As a result, the proposed Blackstone Historic District preserves and protects the community's earliest buildings and its first and still major commercial areas and residential neighborhoods.

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<u>STREET ADDRESS</u>	<u>RESOURCE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
<u>ACADEMY AVENUE</u>		
225 Academy Ave.	1940s brick vernacular house	noncontributing
227 Academy Ave.	ca. 1900 Victorian frame I house	contributing
300 Academy Ave.	1960s brick Ranch-style house	noncontributing
301 Academy Ave.	ca. 1930 vernacular frame house	contributing
309 Academy Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
310 Academy Ave.	1950s Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
312 Academy Ave.	1987 frame Ranch-style house	noncontributing
315 Academy Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
319 Academy Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
320 Academy Ave.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
323 Academy Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
401 Academy Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
403 Academy Ave.	ca. 1940 gabled ell frame house	contributing
405 Academy Ave.		noncontributing

BAGLEY STREET

15 108 Bagley St. 1960s Colonial Revival brick house noncontributing

EAST BROAD STREET

(also 142-4)

111 E. Broad St.	1960s modern brick commercial bldg.	noncontributing
114-118 E. Broad St.	1988 modern frame commercial bldg.	noncontributing
115 E. Broad St.	ca. 1930 frame and perma-stone commercial building (Winn Furniture Co.)	contributing
119 E. Broad St.	ca. 1930 brick commercial building (Trading Post)	contributing
120 E. Broad St.	ca. 1940 brick commercial building (Mercury Cleaners)	contributing

WEST BROAD STREET

21 103 W. Broad St. ca. 1930 remodeled Colonial Revival brick commercial building (State Farm Insurance) noncontributing

105 W. Broad St. ca. 1930 modified Art Deco brick commercial building (Hardware Co. Mall) contributing

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107-109 W. Broad St.	1930s commercial vernacular brick building	contributing
108 W. Broad St.	ca. 1930 commercial vernacular brick former Coca-Cola bottling plant	contributing
111 W. Broad St.	ca. 1900 commercial vernacular brick building	contributing
112-116 W. Broad St.	ca. 1930 commercial vernacular brick building	contributing
113 W. Broad St.	ca. 1900 commercial vernacular brick building	contributing
120 W. Broad St.	1901 brick with cast metal facade H.L. Jackson Building (now Epes Supply Co.)	contributing
121 W. Broad St.	1950 modern brick commercial bldg.	noncontributing

SOUTH BROWN STREET

100 block, east side	ca. 1920 concrete block gable-roofed/stepped parapet warehouse	contributing
200 block, east side	ca. 1900 frame and corrugated metal gable-roofed warehouse	contributing
405 S. Brown St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
415 S. Brown St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing

BRUNSWICK AVENUE

101 Brunswick Ave.	1951 modern brick Blackstone Christian Church	noncontributing
102 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1920 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
106 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1910 modified Queen Anne-style frame DeBerry House built by local contractor Joseph W. Crowder	contributing
107 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
110 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
111 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 Victorian frame I house	contributing
200 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 Victorian frame I house	contributing
201 Brunswick Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
205 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
206 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 frame gabled ell house	contributing
209 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1920 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing

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210 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1910 Colonial Revival frame Briton House built by local contractor Joseph W. Crowder	contributing
300 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1940 Colonial Revival brick house	contributing
303 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1910 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
305 Brunswick Ave.	1903 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
308 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 Victorian Italianate brick house	contributing
310 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
311 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
400 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 vernacular T-plan frame house	contributing
401 Brunswick Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
408 Brunswick Ave.	1940s Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
410 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
411 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1930 Colonial Revival brick house	contributing
500 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Colonial Revival frame house	contributing
501 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style cottage	contributing
503 Brunswick Ave.	1940s vernacular frame house	noncontributing
508 Brunswick Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
509 Brunswick Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
510 Brunswick Ave.	1940s vernacular frame house	noncontributing
511 Brunswick Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
600 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
601 Brunswick Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
606 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
607 Brunswick Ave.	1920s jerkinhead-roofed frame house	contributing
609 Brunswick Ave.	1920s jerkinhead-roofed frame house	contributing
610 Brunswick Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
611 Brunswick Ave.	1970s Ranch-style brick house	noncontributing
700 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
701 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1910 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
706 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
709 Brunswick Ave.	1987 Ranch-style brick house	noncontributing

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710 Brunswick Ave.	1940s Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
711 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
801 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
808 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1950 gabled ell concrete block house	noncontributing
810 Brunswick Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
811 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1900 Colonial Revival frame house	contributing
900 Brunswick Ave.	1911 modified Queen Anne-style frame house built by local contractor Joseph W. Crowder	contributing
906 Brunswick Ave.	ca. 1930 Colonial Revival brick house built by local contractor R. W. Cobbs	contributing

CHURCH STREET

200 Church St.	1903 Romanesque Revival brick Crenshaw Methodist Church	contributing
201 Church St.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
205 Church St. (also 147-6)	ca. 1910 Colonial Revival brick house	contributing
207 Church St.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
301 Church St.	1901 Gothic Revival brick Blackstone Presbyterian Church	contributing
309 Church St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
311 Church St.	ca. 1910 modified Queen Anne-style frame cottage	contributing
403 Church St.	ca. 1920 gabled ell brick house	contributing
405 Church St.	ca. 1900 Victorian vernacular frame house	contributing
409 Church St.	ca. 1920 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
411 Church St.	ca. 1910 American Foursquare-style frame house	contributing
500 block, south side	ca. 1940 steel water tower	contributing structure
500 block, corner of College Ave and Church Street	ca. 1940 commercial vernacular brick Blackstone Power Plant (now used as town garage)	contributing

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200 College Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
201 College Ave.	ca. 1900 Victorian vernacular frame house	contributing
203 College Ave.	ca. 1950 modern brick house	noncontributing
204 College Ave.	ca. 1900 Victorian vernacular frame house	contributing
205 College Ave.	1950s Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
210 College Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
302 College Ave.	ca. 1900 Victorian Italianate brick house	contributing
303 College Ave.	1936 Colonial Revival frame house	contributing
304 College Ave.	1903 modified Queen Anne-style brick house	contributing
305 College Ave.	1960s Ranch-style brick house	noncontributing
309 College Ave.	1960s Ranch-style brick house	noncontributing
310 College Ave.	1970s Ranch-style brick house	noncontributing
311 College Ave.	1950s Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
401 College Ave.	1950s Ranch-atyle brick house	noncontributing
403 College Ave.	1960s Ranch-style brick house	noncontributing
411 College Ave.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
501 College Ave.	1960s Ranch-style brick house	noncontributing
505 College Ave.	ca. 1930 Colonial Revival frame house	contributing
509 College Ave.	1940s Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
600 College Ave.	ca. 1900 Victorian vernacular frame house	contributing

DINWIDDIE AVENUE

200 Dinwiddie Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
202 Dinwiddie Ave.	1920s jerkinhead-roofed frame house	contributing
208 Dinwiddie Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
211 Dinwiddie Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
212 Dinwiddie Ave.	ca. 1900 Victorian vernacular frame house	contributing
213 Dinwiddie Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
301 Dinwiddie Ave.	ca. 1910 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
304 Dinwiddie Ave.	ca. 1910 vernacular frame house	contributing
308 Dinwiddie Ave.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing

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312 Dinwiddie Ave.	ca. 1900 Victorian vernacular frame house	contributing
315 Dinwiddie Ave.	ca. 1910 American Foursquare frame house	contributing
400 Dinwiddie Ave.	ca. 1900 frame Victorian I house	contributing
128 401 Dinwiddie Ave.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing

EAST ELM STREET

107 E. Elm St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
109 E. Elm St.	ca. 1920 American Foursquare brick house	contributing
111 E. Elm St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
113 E. Elm St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing

WEST ELM STREET

100 block, north side	ca. 1950 modern brick Blackstone Town Hall & Chamber of Commerce	noncontributing
100 block, south side	1950s modern brick Blackstone Volunteer Fire Department	noncontributing

NORTH HARRIS STREET

305 N. Harris St.	1960s Ranch-style frame house	noncontributing
307 N. Harris St.	ca. 1950 Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
308 N. Harris St.	ca. 1920 gabled ell frame house	contributing
141 309 N. Harris St.	ca. 1910 American Foursquare frame house	contributing

NORTH HIGH STREET

200 block, northwest corner N. High & Tavern streets	(also 142-1) ca. 1790 vernacular frame Schwartz Tavern; restored in 1987 and listed in the National Register in 1974	contributing
200 block, northeast corner N. High & Tavern streets	ca. 1940 brick and stucco Art Deco Armory	contributing
215 N. High St.	ca. 1910 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing

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217 N. High St.	ca. 1920 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
219 N. High St.	ca. 1910 gabled ell frame house	contributing
300 N. High St.	1910-11 modified Queen Anne-style frame J. J. Nelson House	contributing
301 N. High St.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
302 N. High St.	ca. 1910 vernacular frame house	contributing
304 N. High St.	ca. 1910 American Foursquare frame house	contributing
305 N. High St.	ca. 1900 modified American Four- square frame house	contributing
306 N. High St.	ca. 1920 American Foursquare frame house	contributing
307 N. High St.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
309 N. High St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
400 N. High St.	1890s Victorian gabled ell frame house	contributing
401 N. High St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
403 N. High St.	ca. 1900 remodeled gabled ell frame house	contributing
407 N. High St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing

SOUTH HIGH STREET

113 S. High St.	ca. 1900 frame Victorian I house	contributing
115 S. High St.	1920s American Foursquare brick house	contributing
200 S. High St.	ca. 1940 English Cottage brick house	contributing
202 S. High St.	1920s modified American Foursquare brick house	contributing
206 S. High St.	1907 vernacular frame McEnery House	contributing
207 S. High St.	1898 remodeled Colonial Revival brick J. M. Harris House	contributing
210 S. High St.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
211 S. High St.	1894 Queen Anne-style brick Thomas M. Dillard House	contributing

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303 S. High St.	ca. 1950 Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
304 S. High St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
305 S. High St.	1911 Queen Anne-style brick Richmond F. Dillard House	contributing
311 S. High St.	ca. 1940 Colonial Revival brick house	contributing

IRVIN STREET

105 Irvin St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
108 Irvin St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
110 Irvin St.	1909 Queen Anne/Colonial Revival frame house	contributing

LUNENBURG AVENUE

northeast corner of Lunenburg Ave. & 2nd Street	1940s commercial vernacular frame and sheet metal warehouse	noncontributing
northeast corner of Lunenburg Ave. & 3rd Street	ca. 1950 commercial vernacular concrete block Winn Warehouse	noncontributing
southwest corner of Lunenburg Ave. & 3rd Street	ca. 1940 commercial vernacular frame Love & Hardaway Bulk Plant	contributing
424 Lunenburg Ave.	ca. 1900 vernacular frame house	contributing

NORTH MAIN STREET

100 N. Main St.	ca. 1930 brick commercial building; remodeled in 1980 (Sullivan's Tavern/Spencer's Drugs)	noncontributing
101 N. Main St.	1967 Colonial Revival brick building (Citizens Bank and Trust)	noncontributing
104 N. Main St.	ca. 1920 commercial brick building (The Carousel)	contributing
106 N. Main St.	1929 commercial brick building (Sheffield TV)	contributing
108 N. Main St.	1940s commercial brick and stucco building (Cole's Men's Shop)	noncontributing
110 N. Main St.	ca. 1940 brick commercial building (Cole's Ladies' Shop)	contributing

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111 N. Main St. ca. 1940 brick commercial building noncontributing
remodeled in Colonial Revival style
in 1988 with 1966 modern addition
(Barrow Grocery)

112 N. Main St. ca. 1940 brick commercial building contributing
(Blackstone Emporium)

121 N. Main St. ca. 1900 brick and frame commercial contributing
building (Sheffield Furniture Co.)

193 130 N. Main St. ca. 1930 brick commercial building contributing
(Carson Motor Co./Sanitary Barber Shop)

SOUTH MAIN STREET

100 S. Main St. ca. 1910 Romanesque Revival brick contributing
First National Bank (now Amelia Shops/
H & R Block Income Tax) designed by
Richmond architect D. Wiley Anderson

101 S. Main St. ca. 1900 Romanesque Revival brick com- contributing
mercial building (Virginia Apparel)

103 S. Main St. ca. 1900 Victorian commercial brick contributing
Hurt Building with cast-metal facade
(now Super Dollar Store)

109-111 S. Main St. ca. 1900 Victorian commercial brick contributing
building with cast-metal facade
(Dollar General Store)

110 S. Main St. ca. 1900 Victorian commercial brick contributing
building with cast-metal facade
(Watkins Jeweler)

113 S. Main St. ca. 1900 Victorian commercial brick contributing
building with cast-metal details (Dollar
General Store)

114 S. Main St. ca. 1940 Art Deco brick commercial contributing
building (Hardware Company Mall)

115-117 S. Main St. ca. 1900 Victorian commercial brick contributing
building with cast-metal facade

116-118 S. Main St. ca. 1900 Romanesque Revival brick contributing
commercial building (Sears store)

119 S. Main St. ca. 1900 Victorian commercial brick contributing
J.S. Robertson Building with cast-metal
facade (Western Auto Associate Store)

120 S. Main St. ca. 1920 brick and stucco commer- noncontributing
cial building; remodeled in 1970s
(West's Food Center)

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121 S. Main St.	ca. 1975 modern brick commercial building (Gravatt & Gravatt)	noncontributing
122 S. Main St.	ca. 1930 brick commercial building; remodeled in 1970s (Nottoway Drug Co.)	noncontributing
123 S. Main St.	1895 Victorian Italianate brick commercial building (Blackstone Restaurant)	contributing
125 S. Main St.	ca. 1970 modern brick commercial building (Irby Insurance Agency, Inc.)	noncontributing
126 S. Main St.	1920 Beaux-Arts brick and stone Citizen's Bank and Trust Co.	contributing
200 S. Main St.	1960s modern brick commercial building (Central Fidelity Bank)	noncontributing
201 S. Main St.	ca. 1950 modern brick commercial building (Peebles Department Store)	noncontributing
203 S. Main St.	1970s modern brick commercial building (Moncure Insurance Agency, Inc)	noncontributing
207 S. Main St.	ca. 1920 brick commercial building (Courier-Record Newspaper Office)	contributing
212 S. Main St.	1960s modern brick commercial building (Nash Insurance Agency)	noncontributing
213 S. Main St.	ca. 1930 brick commercial building (Ann's Pantry)	contributing
214 S. Main St.	ca. 1930 brick commercial building (The Country Squire)	contributing
215 S. Main St.	ca. 1920 rough-cast concrete block commercial building (Happy Time TV Rental)	contributing
218 S. Main St.	ca. 1930 Art Deco brick commercial building (Cecile's Restaurant)	contributing
220-224 S. Main St.	ca. 1950 modern brick commercial building (Farm Bureau Inc./Ellington Realty)	noncontributing
300 S. Main St.	1960s modern brick commercial bldg. (My Place Sandwich Shoppe)	noncontributing
301 S. Main St.	1970s modern frame commercial bldg. (Dick's Place, Inc.)	noncontributing
302-304 S. Main St.	1960s modern brick commercial building (Southside Finance/Southside Surplus)	noncontributing
303 S. Main St.	ca. 1940 commercial brick building (Freeman Auto Parts)	contributing
305 S. Main St.	1950s modern brick commercial bldg. (Pythian Sisters)	noncontributing

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306 S. Main St.	1960s modern brick commercial bldg. (Nottoway Office Services)	noncontributing
307 S. Main St.	1960s concrete block service station (P & B Plumbing)	noncontributing
308 S. Main St.	1890s Victorian I house with major 1970s addition (Men's Shop)	noncontributing
310 S. Main St.	1950s modern brick commercial bldg. (Used Work Clothing Shop)	noncontributing
230 312-314 S. Main St.	1950s modern brick commercial building (Electric Equipment Co.)	noncontributing
230 316 S. Main St.	1960s steel frame and enameled metal service station (Parham's Exxon)	noncontributing
400 S. Main St.	1940 Federal Revival brick Blackstone Post Office (also 142-9)	contributing
403 S. Main St.	1907 Classical Revival brick Blackstone Baptist Church	contributing
404 S. Main St.	1920s Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
406 S. Main St.	1924 Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
408 S. Main St.	ca. 1950 Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
412 S. Main St.	1960s Colonial Revival brick Wedgewood Motor Inn, Inc.	noncontributing
415 S. Main St.	1915 Colonial Revival brick Hite House (Lewis Spencer Epps Memorial Library)	contributing
418 S. Main St.	1920s Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
420 S. Main St.	1898 Gothic Revival brick St. Luke's Episcopal Church; remodeled in 1943-44 and 1966	contributing
500 S. Main St.	1903 modified Queen Anne-style frame James D. Crawley House designed by local architect J. E. McDaniel	contributing
503 S. Main St.	1935 Colonial Revival frame house	contributing
504 S. Main St.	1890s Victorian I frame house	contributing
507 S. Main St.	1925 American Foursquare brick house	contributing
508 S. Main St.	1890s Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
509 S. Main St.	ca. 1910 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
510 S. Main St.	ca. 1900 frame Victorian I house	contributing
511 S. Main St.	1913 modified American Foursquare frame W. P. Bagwell House built by local contractor J. G. Bacon	contributing
512 S. Main St.	1892 Queen Anne-style frame Daniel T. Upson House (also 142-9)	contributing

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513 S. Main St.	1911 Colonial Revival frame Sudie Bagley House	contributing
600 S. Main St.	ca. 1900 frame Victorian I house	contributing
601 S. Main St.	1915 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
604 S. Main St.	1890s Queen Anne-style frame Presbyterian manse until ca. 1950	contributing
605 S. Main St.	ca. 1900 frame Victorian I house	contributing
606 S. Main St.	ca. 1910 modified American Foursquare frame house	contributing
607 S. Main St.	1940s Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
614 S. Main St.	1921 Colonial Revival/Tudor Revival brick D. W. Perkins House built by local contractor R. W. Cobbs	contributing
615 S. Main St.	1907 Colonial Revival frame D. L. Tuggle House	contributing
617 S. Main St.	1939 Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
618 S. Main St.	ca. 1900 Victorian gabled ell frame house	contributing
619 S. Main St.	ca. 1940 Colonial Revival brick house	contributing
620 S. Main St.	1970s Colonial Revival brick Oakwood Apartment Building	noncontributing
700 S. Main St.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
701 S. Main St.	1923 American Foursquare brick house	contributing
703 S. Main St.	ca. 1900 frame Victorian I house	contributing
704 S. Main St.	ca. 1910 Victorian gabled ell frame house	contributing
708 S. Main St.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
709 S. Main St.	1918 modified Colonial Revival frame house	contributing
801 S. Main St.	1907 gabled ell frame Cardoza-Epes House	contributing
802 S. Main St.	1901 modified Queen Anne-style frame Joseph W. Crowder House built by local contractor Joseph W. Crowder; remodeled in 1980s	contributing
805 S. Main St.	ca. 1900 Victorian gabled ell frame house	contributing
806 S. Main St.	ca. 1910 modified American Foursquare frame house	contributing

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807 S. Main St. ca. 1910 modified Queen Anne-style contributing
frame Hardy House built by local
contractor Joseph W. Crowder
808 S. Main St. ca. 1950 Colonial Revival brick noncontributing
house
811 S. Main St. 1901 Queen Anne-style frame Dr. James contributing
Reed House built by local contractor
Joseph W. Crowder
812 S. Main St. 1912 frame I house contributing
813 S. Main St. 1920s Bungalow-style brick house contributing
815 S. Main St. ca. 1900 frame Victorian I house contributing
817 S. Main St. ca. 1910 frame gabled ell house contributing
260 819 S. Main St. 1907 modified Queen Anne-style frame contributing
J. M. Hurt House with connecting 1951
Catholic Church

MANN STREET

204 Mann St. 1960s Ranch-style brick house noncontributing
206 Mann St. ca. 1930 vernacular gabled ell frame contributing
house
213 Mann St. ca. 1930 vernacular gabled ell frame contributing
house
217 Mann St. early-19th-century log or frame vernac- contributing
ular house
301 Mann St. 1890s Victorian vernacular frame house contributing

WEST MAPLE STREET

100 block, north side ca. 1950 modern commercial noncontributing
concrete block building

OAK STREET

401 Oak St. 1890s frame Victorian I house contributing
407 Oak St. 1913 frame Victorian I house contributing
408 Oak St. ca. 1900 Victorian gabled ell frame house contributing
410 Oak St. 1903 Victorian gabled ell frame Bernard contributing
White House built by local contractor
Joseph W. Crowder
411 Oak St. ca. 1920 Bungalow-style frame house contributing
414 Oak St. ca. 1900 Colonial Revival (remodeled) contributing
brick veneered frame house

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415 Oak St.	ca. 1900 Victorian gabled ell frame house	contributing
417 Oak St.	ca. 1900 modified Queen Anne-style frame house	contributing
418 Oak St.	ca. 1920 American Foursquare frame and stucco house	contributing
419 Oak St.	ca. 1900 modified American Foursquare frame house	contributing
423 Oak St.	ca. 1900 frame Victorian I house	contributing
427 Oak St.	ca. 1910 modified American Foursquare frame house	contributing
500 Oak St.	ca. 1960 Ranch-style brick house	noncontributing
502 Oak St.	1926 Colonial Revival brick house	contributing
504 Oak St.	ca. 1920 American Foursquare/Colonial Revival brick house	contributing
510 Oak St.	ca. 1950 Colonial Revival brick house	noncontributing
602 Oak St.	1920s Colonial Revival frame house	contributing
604 Oak St.	ca. 1940 English Cottage-style brick house	contributing

2ND STREET

306 2nd St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
310 2nd St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
314 2nd St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
315 2nd St.	ca. 1909 commercial vernacular brick Plantation Tobacco Co. warehouse	contributing
318 2nd St.	1935 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
320 2nd St.	ca. 1970 Ranch-style frame house	noncontributing
406 2nd St.	ca. 1935 vernacular gabled ell frame house	contributing
407 2nd St.	ca. 1920 American Foursquare frame house	contributing
408 2nd St.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
409 2nd St.	ca. 1900 Victorian gabled ell frame house	contributing
410 2nd St.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
412 2nd St.	ca. 1970 Ranch-style frame house	noncontributing
509 2nd St.	1960s Ranch-style frame house	noncontributing
510 2nd St.	1940s vernacular gabled ell frame house	noncontributing
512 2nd St.	1920s Bungalow-style brick house	contributing
515 2nd St.	ca. 1930 vernacular gabled ell frame house	contributing
518 2nd St.	ca. 1930 vernacular gabled ell frame house	contributing

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203 3rd St.	1970s Ranch-style frame house	noncontributing
207 3rd St.	1970s Ranch-style frame house	noncontributing
215 3rd St.	1960s Ranch-style frame house	noncontributing
400 3rd St.	1940s gabled ell commercial garage; remodeled in 1988	noncontributing
402 3rd St.	1970s mobile home	noncontributing
405 3rd St.	1960s Ranch-style frame and brick house	noncontributing
406 3rd St.	ca. 1940 vernacular gabled ell frame house	contributing
408 3rd St.	1980s Ranch-style frame house	noncontributing
502 (402) 3rd St.	ca. 1940 vernacular gabled ell frame house	contributing
503 3rd St.	1970s Colonial Revival frame house	noncontributing
505 3rd St.	1970s Colonial Revival frame house	noncontributing
506 3rd St.	1960s Ranch-style brick house	noncontributing
734 507 (407) 3rd St.	1940s vernacular gabled ell frame house	noncontributing

4TH STREET

105 4th St.	ca. 1935 Cottage-style brick house	contributing
106 4th St.	ca. 1935 Craftsman-style brick house	contributing
107 4th St.	ca. 1910 vernacular gabled ell frame house	contributing
109 4th St.	ca. 1935 Colonial Revival frame house	contributing
110 4th St.	ca. 1940 vernacular gabled ell frame house	contributing
111 4th St.	ca. 1935 gabled ell brick house	contributing
200 4th St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
201 4th St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
202 4th St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
203 4th St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
205 4th St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
211 4th St.	ca. 1900 gabled ell frame house	contributing
213 4th St.	ca. 1940 gabled ell frame triplex	contributing
217 4th St.	ca. 1970 Ranch-style frame house	noncontributing
218 4th St.	ca. 1940 frame and metal cladding com- mercial building (Exxon Blackstone Fuel Co., Inc.)	contributing

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219 4th St.	ca. 1950 brick commercial building	noncontributing
301? 4th St.	1960s mobile home	noncontributing
310 4th St.	1940s gabled ell frame house	noncontributing
311 4th St.	1920s Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
312 4th St.	1940s gabled ell frame house	noncontributing
313 4th St.	ca. 1930 gabled ell frame house	contributing
314 4th St.	1940s gabled ell frame house	noncontributing
402 4th St.	ca. 1950 gabled ell concrete block house	noncontributing
403 4th St.	ca. 1940 English Cottage brick house	contributing
404 4th St.	ca. 1940 Cape Cod frame house	contributing
405 4th St.	ca. 1940 Colonial Revival brick house	contributing
361 { southwest corner of 4th St. and College Ave. (also 142-3)	(a) 1922 Collegiate Beaux Arts former Blackstone College for Girls (now the Va. Methodist Assembly Center) built by local builder R. W. Cobbs	contributing
	(b) ca. 1900 brick president's house	contributing

5TH STREET

306-308 5th St.	ca. 1940 gabled ell frame triplex	contributing
309 5th St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
311 5th St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
313 5th St.	ca. 1930 Bungalow-style frame house	contributing
404 5th St.	ca. 1940 Colonial Revival brick house	contributing
407 5th St.	1940s gabled ell frame house	noncontributing
409 5th St.	1960s Ranch-style brick house	noncontributing
411 5th St.	ca. 1910 American Foursquare/Colonial Revival frame house	contributing

6TH STREET

304 6th St.	1930s gabled ell frame house	contributing
305 6th St.	ca. 1940 jerkinhead-roofed frame house	contributing
307 6th St.	ca. 1940 jerkinhead-roofed frame house	contributing
310 6th St.	ca. 1940 gabled ell frame house	contributing
374 312 6th St.	ca. 1940 gabled ell frame house	contributing

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By the 1850s, Black's and White's began to appear regularly on state maps.⁵ At the same time construction was completed on the Southside Railroad line between Petersburg and Lynchburg, with a station stop in Black's and White's. In 1881 the Southside line was consolidated with the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad to form the Norfolk and Western Railroad.⁶ Black's and White's was then poised for development as a shipping point for local farmers and as a receiving point for manufactured goods.

Responding to the potential for growth and to the needs of many local farmers who relied solely on their annual tobacco harvests for cash, in 1873 Freeman Epes led the move in Black's and White's to establish Nottoway County's first bank--Citizens Bank and Trust Company. The next year, the town was plotted on a grid system extending from the major intersection of Main and Broad streets.⁸ By the early 1880s, the growth of Black's and White's caused its leaders to consider incorporation, which would establish a local governing body for the community. Several stories recount the various new names that were considered for the town, but all versions agree that Dr. Jethro M. Hurt recommended the name Blackstone. This name ostensibly honored Sir William Blackstone, the famed eighteenth-century English jurist, but its similarity to "Black's and White's" no doubt made the transition easier for local residents.⁹ The town was incorporated in 1888.

Located in the midst of the dark tobacco farming region, Blackstone became a leader in the tobacco market from the 1880s until the 1960s. Rail and trucking service enabled farmers to transport their harvest to the marketplace in Blackstone and buyers to transport their purchases to the factory. Several tobacco warehouses were built throughout the town by the early 1900s, and two warehouses regularly sponsored tobacco auctions to major manufacturers. One surviving warehouse stands in the district at the southeast corner of Lunenburg Avenue and Second Street. Formerly Joseph E. Beach and Co., this warehouse was part of a tobacco processing plant begun in 1909 for "classifying, grading, and re-drying tobacco for sale here and abroad."¹⁰ Blackstone's prosperity from tobacco sales ended when its last auction warehouse burned in the late 1960s.

By the close of the nineteenth century, Blackstone had become a commercial center for Southside Virginia. The business district featured a variety of commercial enterprises, many of them in structures clad in pressed metal facades. (The Hurt Building, 103 South Main Street, carries the facade imprint "Mesker Brothers, Pat. Oct. 4, 1887.") By 1920, the town featured two impressive bank buildings in the 100 block of South Main Street: the First National Bank (100 South Main, ca. 1910) is an excellent example of Romanesque Revival architecture by Richmond architect D. Wiley Anderson; and Citizens Bank and Trust Company at the opposite end of the block (126 South Main Street, 1920) is the town's only commercial building representing the Beaux-Arts style. It was built by local contractor R. W. Cobbs.

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In 1892 Hoge Military Academy (not included in the district due to its modern surroundings) opened on South Main Street. Dr. Theodorick Pryor Epes served as the first president of the Academy, the name of which was changed to Blackstone Military Academy in 1912. The original building was replaced in 1922 by a three-story Collegiate Gothic building constructed by R. W. Cobbs. The academy closed in 1929 due to the financial problems brought on by the Great Depression. (An earlier school, Union Academy, stood south of town. Dr. Walter Reed attended classes there. As an adult, Reed often returned to Blackstone to visit his brother, Methodist minister James Reed, who lived in the 1898 Queen Anne-style house at 811 South Main Street.) The Blackstone Female Institute opened in 1894 under the direction of Methodist Bishop James Cannon, who was later instrumental in Virginia's establishment of public high schools in all counties throughout the state. Following a fire, the Institute was rebuilt in the Beaux-Arts style in 1922; it continued operation as Blackstone College for Girls until 1943.¹²

With the development of businesses and educational institutions at the beginning of the twentieth century, local entrepreneurs began development of a planned residential neighborhood in the western part of town. A plat map of 1905 is accompanied by the invitation, "The Blackstone Land and Improvement Company, owning 308 acres of land lying on either side of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, invite inspection of this well established town. Manufacturers will find it to their interest to locate here. Good hardwood timber is abundant, excellent land and no malaria, the elevation being from four to six hundred feet above established tide."¹³ More than one hundred buildings in the town's historic district were constructed in the residential neighborhoods created by the Blackstone Land and Improvement Company and by the Blackstone Development Company.

Responding to the need for services, the town installed a water system in 1902 and a sewer system in 1908.¹⁴ On 27 March 1914 the Virginia General Assembly granted the Blackstone Town Charter, which regulated the town council's administrative, police, and electoral powers.¹⁵ The charter also noted the town's concern for fire safety by stating, "All buildings that would endanger other buildings in case of fire shall be covered with slate or metal roof, and buildings that are already covered with wood or paper shall be re-covered with metal, or slate, when it is necessary to renew the roof."¹⁶ Despite these precautions and later ordinances, the town's commercial district has endured three major fires in the twentieth century.¹⁷

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During World War II, the Federal government designated over 40,000 acres of rural land near Blackstone for an army base--Camp Pickett. Following the establishment of Camp Pickett, Blackstone experienced a second building boom in the late 1940s. Businesses and churches expanded to meet the needs of soldiers stationed nearby, and many Victorian houses became tourist homes, where soldiers' spouses and families stayed. The planned residential neighborhoods that were developed at this time usually included the restrictive covenant, "No person or persons of any race, other than the white race, shall use or occupy any building or any lot, except occupancy by domestic servants of a different race will be allowed when domesticated with an owner or tenant."¹⁸

Although Blackstone has always contained a significant black population, its black and white communities were largely segregated until the 1960s. The areas north of the commercial district and west of upper Church Street have traditionally been black neighborhoods, and the north neighborhood was described as "negro town" in 1902.¹⁹ No early ordinances restricted the property rights of blacks, but the 1914 Charter required²⁰ that all electors pay a poll tax six months prior to elections.

Despite the segregation of Blackstone's residential neighborhoods, the town's black and white populations sometimes merged in other areas. In May 1907 the Blackstone Town Council granted a permit to the trustees of Shiloh Church to build "a frame church with a metal roof" on the corner of Irvin and Brown streets.²¹ Shiloh's black congregation built its church in 1908 within one block of three of the community's white churches. One of Blackstone's most prosperous early merchants was Henry L. Jackson, a black man. In 1899 the Town Council granted Jackson a license for the retail sale of liquor in Blackstone, which necessitated paying the town an annual license tax of \$500. Jackson's success resulted in his purchasing the brick building at 120 West Broad Street two years later and cladding it in one of Blackstone's most elaborate pressed-tin facades.²² The building is crowned with Jackson's name and the date "1901."

Blackstone's early progress has been tempered by its losses in the twentieth century. Its two major schools had both closed by the end of World War II, the railroad became less of an influence as highway and air travel became more attractive, and the tobacco market was moved twelve miles away in the late 1960s. When Route 460 bypassed the town in the early 1970s, the economy suffered even more. During the past decade, local leaders have examined the community, determined its history and

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architecture to be distinctive resources, and invested in a revitalization of the commercial district. The Blackstone Renaissance Committee, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council, was created to lead this revitalization, which is now spreading into residential areas. The Renaissance Committee serves as a watchdog for appropriate maintenance of buildings and sites, and it has proposed local ordinances to enable the Town Council to regulate signage, façade treatments, and community standards for rehabilitation. The goal of the Renaissance Committee is to make Blackstone an attractive area for local citizens, light industry, commuters to nearby cities, and tourists.

¹A. B. Cummins, Nottoway County, Virginia, W. M. Brown and Son, Inc., Richmond, 1970, p. 1.

²Schwartz Tavern Authority, "Schwartz Tavern Restoration," fundraising bulletin, Blackstone, Virginia, 1975.

³W. R. Turner, Old Homes and Families in Nottoway, Nottoway Publishing Company, Blackstone, Virginia, 1932, p.8.

⁴Blackstone Centennial Authority, "A Brief History of Schwartz Tavern," 1989 Historic Calendar, Blackstone, Virginia, 1988.

⁵Robert Winthrop, Blackstone, unpublished report on the rehabilitation of downtown Blackstone, Richmond, Virginia, 1985, p. 3.

⁶Cummins, p. 94.

⁷Ibid., p. 98.

⁸Nottoway County Deed Book, Volume 2, p. 642.

⁹Winthrop, p. 4.

¹⁰Cummins, p. 95.

¹¹Winthrop, p. 6.

¹²Cummins, pp. 52-53.

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¹³Blackstone Plat Book.

¹⁴Ibid.

¹⁵Blackstone Town Council, The Code of the Town of Blackstone, Virginia, Michie City Publications, Co., Charlottesville, Virginia, 1971, Articles II and III.

¹⁶Ibid., Title 13, Chapter 5, Section 78.

¹⁷Cummins, p. 188.

¹⁸Blackstone Plat Book.

¹⁹Blackstone Town Council Minutes, November 7, 1902.

²⁰Blackstone Code, Article II, Section 5.

²¹Blackstone Town Council Minutes, May 1907.

²²Nottoway County Land Book, p. 88.

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Walsworth Don Mills, Inc., Winston-Salem, North Carolina.
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Blackstone, Virginia, 1985.

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Beginning at a point A located at the southwest corner of the lot at 906 Brunswick Ave.; thence proceeding north and west following the rear property lines of the lots at 508-906 Brunswick Ave., 407-411 5th St., and 505 and 509 College Ave. to a point B located on the east side of College Ave. opposite the southeast corner of the lot at 600 College Ave.; thence proceeding west along the southern property line of the lot at 600 College Ave., following the southern, western, and northern boundaries of the lot containing the Virginia Methodist Assembly Center, and proceeding north along the rear property lines of the lots at 200-310 College Ave. and the west side of College Ave. to a point C located on the north side of Church St. opposite the southwest corner of the intersection of College Ave. and Church St.; thence proceeding east along the north side of Church St., excluding the noncontributing properties at the intersection of Church St. and Lunenburg Ave., and following the western and northern property lines of the lot containing Crenshaw United Methodist Church to a point D located on the east side of S. Brown St.; thence proceeding north along the rear property lines of the lots at 400, 406, 410, 412 S. Main St., the west property line of the lot at 405 S. Brown St., and the rear property lines of the lots at 300-316 S. Main St. to a point E located at the northwest corner of the lot at 300 S. Main St., thence proceeding west along the south side of W. Maple St. to the intersection of Maple and Brown streets, thence proceeding north along the east side of Brown St. to a point F located at the northwest corner of the lot at 121 N. Main St.; thence proceeding east along the northern property lines of the lots at 121 and 130 N. Main St. to an alley intersecting Tavern St., north along the rear property lines of the lots at 217-407 N. High St. and the lot containing Schwartz Tavern to a point G; thence proceeding east along the south side of Division St., south along the east side of N. High St., east along the northern and eastern property lines of the lot at 400 N. High St., east along the north side of Mann St., north and east along the property lines of 213 Mann St., east along a projected line extending from the northeast corner of the lot at 213 Mann St. due east to the south side of Cryor's Rd., south along the eastern property lines of the lots at 301 Mann St., 308 N. Harris St., and east along the rear property lines of the lots at 315 and 401 Dinwiddie St. to a point H located at the northeast corner of the lot at 401 Dinwiddie St.; thence

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proceeding south along the east property lines of the lots at 401 and 400 Dinwiddie St., west along the rear property lines of the lots at 208-400 Dinwiddie St., south along the rear property line of the lot containing the Armory, west along the north side of Tavern St. to a point I located opposite the southeast corner of the intersection of Tavern and Inge streets; thence proceeding south along the east side of Inge St., east along the northern property lines of the lots at 113 and 115 S. High St., south along the rear property lines of the lots at 115-311 S. High St., south to the south side of Irvin St., east along the northern and rear property lines of the lots at 401 and 407 Oak St., south along the rear property lines of the lots at 411-427 Oak St., and west along the southern property line of the lot at 427 Oak St. to a point J located at the northeast corner of the intersection of High School St. and Oak St.; thence proceeding south along the east side of Oak St., west along the southern property line of the lot at 604 Oak St., south along the rear property lines of the lots at 615-701 S. Main St., east along the northern property line of the lot at 701 S. Main St., south along the rear property lines of the lots at 703-819 S. Main St., and west along the southern property line of the lot at 819 S. Main St. to a point K located on the west side of S. Main St. opposite the southwest corner of the lot at 819 S. Main St.; thence proceeding north along the west side of S. Main St., west along the southern property line of the lot at 812 S. Main St., north along the rear property lines of the lots at 704-812 S. Main St., and west along the rear property lines of the lots at 107-311 4th St. to a point L located at the northeast corner of the lot at 306-308 5th St.; thence proceeding south along the eastern property lines of the lots at 306-308 and 309 5th St., and 304 and 305 6th St., west along the rear property lines of the lots at 305 and 307 6th St., south along the rear property lines of the lots at 609-811 Brunswick Ave., and west along the southern property line of the lot at 811 Brunswick Ave. to a point M located at the southwest corner of the lot at 811 Brunswick Ave.; thence proceeding south along the east side of Brunswick Ave. and west along the southern property line of the lot at 906 Brunswick Ave. to the point of origin.

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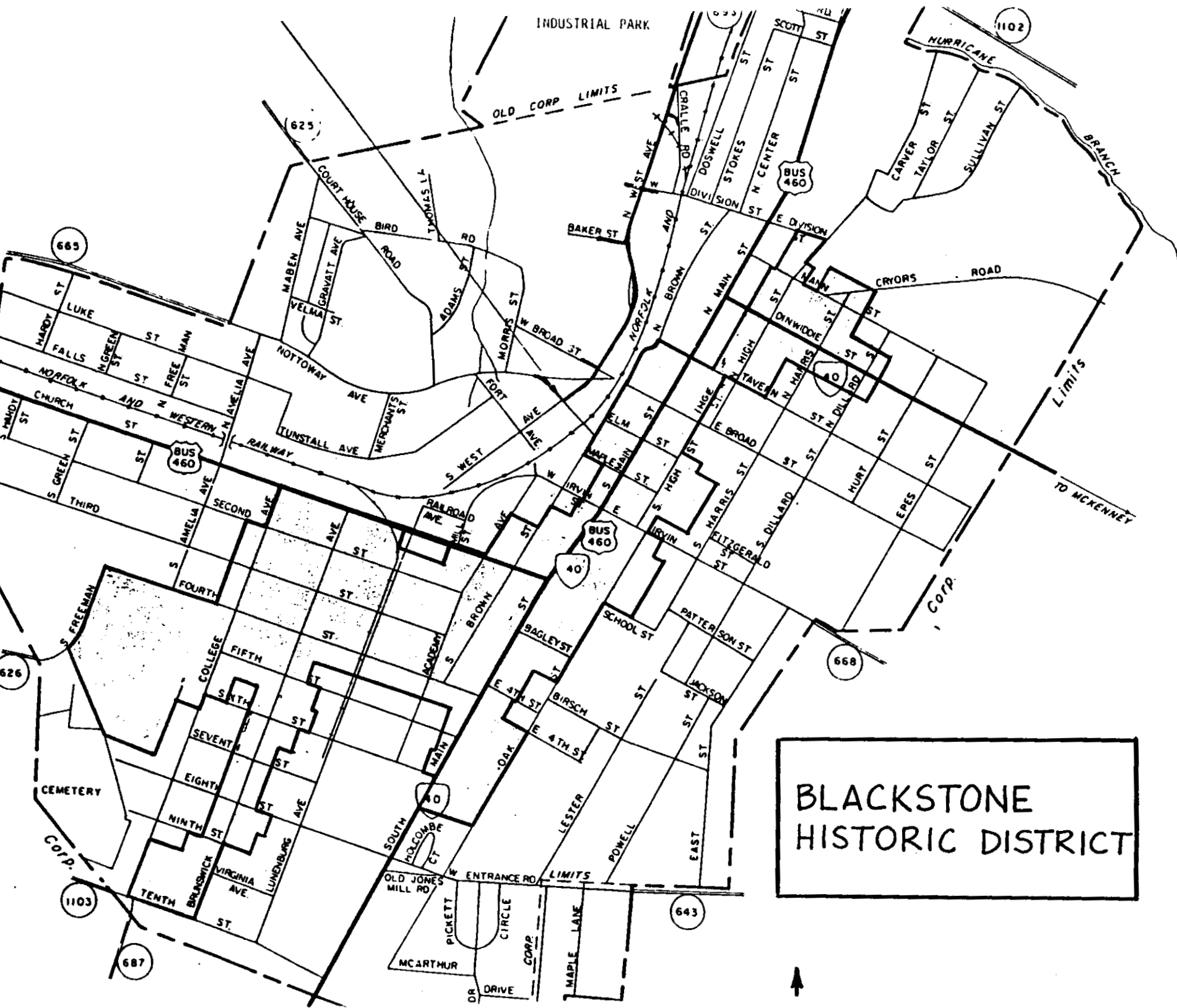
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BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Blackstone Historic District contains the largest concentration of historic buildings in the town. The boundaries follow property lines and street rights-of-way throughout the district. Large concentrations of noncontributing buildings were excluded from the district where possible. Some of those areas include the modern commercial buildings north of the 100 block of N. Main St., the residential and commercial buildings south of the intersection of 6th and S. Main streets, the residences in the 100-200 blocks of 5th and 6th streets, and those located on 7th, 8th, and 9th streets, residences along Lunenburg Ave. south of 4th St., areas west of Brunswick and College avenues, and areas east of Oak, Inge, and Dillard streets. The Norfolk-Southern Railroad tracks west of Brown and north of Church streets serve as a convenient physical boundary between the historic district and those areas of town with less architectural and contextual integrity. Although the commercial area contains a large number of noncontributing buildings, the area is dominated by contributing buildings of more substantial size and height.

UTM REFERENCES - continued

E 17/766580/4106640
F 17/765940/4106360
G 17/765760/4106400
H 17/765600/4106760
I 17/765970/4107440
J 17/766660/4107480



BLACKSTONE
HISTORIC DISTRICT